

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-15 (canceled)

16 (original): An aqueous-based curable coating composition comprising:

- a. a resinous binder comprising
 - i. a reaction product of an epoxy-containing polymer with a compound containing phosphorus acid groups, the reaction product having reactive functional groups,
 - ii. a curing agent having functional groups reactive with the functional groups of (i);
- b. an electroconductive pigment dispersed in (a) such that the weight ratio of b to (i) plus (ii) is within the range of 0.5 to 9.0:1; and
- c. water,

the coating composition being characterized such that when it is deposited and cured on a metal substrate, the cured coating is weldable.

17 (original): The coating composition according to claim 16 further comprising stabilizers, dispersants, and thickeners.

18 (original): The coating composition according to claim 17 wherein the stabilizer/dispersant is potassium tripolyphosphate.

19 (original): The coating composition according to claim 16 further comprising an amine.

20 (original): The coating composition according to claim 16 further comprising corrosion inhibiting pigments.

21 (original): An organic solvent-based curable coating composition comprising:

- a. a resinous binder comprising
 - i. a reaction product of an epoxy-containing polymer with a compound containing phosphorus acid groups, the reaction product having reactive functional groups,
 - ii. a curing agent having functional groups reactive with the functional groups of (i);
- b. an electroconductive pigment dispersed in (a) such that the weight ratio of b to (i) plus (ii) is within the range of 0.5 to 9.0:1; and
- c. an organic solvent,

the curable coating composition being characterized such that when it is deposited cured on a metal substrate, the cured coating is weldable.

22 (original): The coating composition according to claim 21 further comprising corrosion resistant pigments.

23 (original): The coating composition according to claim 21 further comprising an amine.

24 (original): The coating composition according to claim 21 wherein the amine is N-methyl or N-ethyl morpholine.

25 (original): A process for coating a continuous metal sheet comprising:

- a. applying directly to the metal sheet shortly after it is formed and at a temperature of 20 to 150°C, a curable coating composition comprising:
 - i. a resinous binder comprising
 - (A) a reaction product of an epoxy-containing polymer with a compound containing phosphorus acid groups, the reaction product having reactive functional groups,

- (B) a curing agent having functional groups reactive with the functional groups of (A);
- ii. an electroconductive pigment dispersed in (i) such that the weight ratio of (ii) to (A) plus (B) is within the range of 0.5 to 9.0:1,

the curable coating composition being characterized such that when it is deposited and cured on a metal substrate, the cured coating is weldable; and

- b. drying the coating composition on the metal sheet.

26 (original): The process according to claim 25 wherein the metal sheet is selected from the group comprising ferrous metals, non-ferrous metals, and combinations thereof.

27 (original): A process for coating a continuous metal sheet comprising:

- a. unwinding the metal sheet from a metal coil and passing the metal sheet in a substantially continuous manner through a cleaning station, a coating station, and a curing station;
- b. applying to the metal sheet at the coating station a curable coating composition comprising:
 - i. a resinous binder comprising:
 - (A) a reaction product of an epoxy-containing polymer with a compound containing phosphorus acid groups, the reaction product having reactive functional groups,
 - (B) a curing agent having functional groups reactive with the functional groups of (A);
 - ii. an electroconductive pigment dispersed in (i) such that the weight ratio of (ii) to (A) plus (B) is within the range of 0.5 to 9.0:1; and
- c. curing the coating composition applied to the metal sheet in step (b) as the coated metal sheet passes through the curing station.

28 (original): A process according to claim 27 further comprising galvanizing the metal sheet and then immediately performing the step of applying the curable coating composition.